The Clarion

Vol. XXVIII, No. 1 | East Brunswick High School, East Brunswick, N.J. 08816 | November 1992

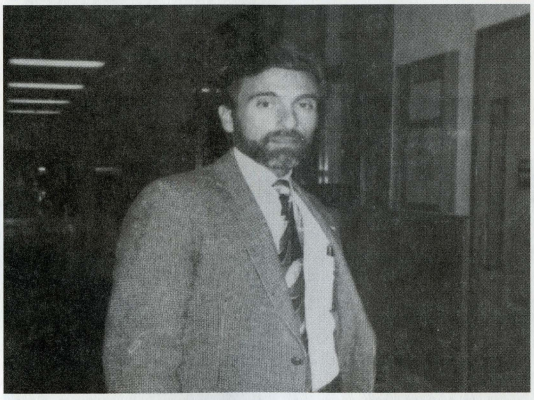


Photo courtesy of Christopher Traficante

Mr. Traficante's face will soon become familiar.

Traficante arrives

by Kaushik Datta

Christopher Traficante was approved as the new assistant principal on September 24. He became the grade level administrator for the senior class on November 5.

Mr. Traficante was a vice principal at Keyport High School. He was granted sixty days to transfer to EBHS. He replaced Robert Henning, who had been acting as temporary assistant principal since Benedict Tantillo resigned the position in August in order to become a principal in a school district closer to his home.

As the grade level administrator of the senior class, Mr. Traficante is responsible for the out-to-lunch program, In-School Suspension, teacher evaluations and various student activities.

Mr. Henning said, "He [Mr. Traficante] has big shoes to fill in replacing Mr. Tantillo. However, Mr. Traficante has many of the same good qualities as Mr. Tantillo, so he should do an excellent job."

Most seniors, however, did not know about the approval of Mr. Traficante.

Senior Yoon Hee Kang said, "I haven't heard anything about the situation recently. Assistant principals aren't really heard about much."

Senior Matt Silberberg said, "I didn't even know that Mr. Tantillo had left."

Mr. Traficante has previously held positions as a Department Chairperson and as an English teacher in Elizabeth township. He received his Bachelor's Degree in English from St. John's University, a master's degree from Richmond College, and he is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at Nova University.

Plan to change EB schools approved

by Bonnie Parker

An architectural plan submitted by the Vitetta Group was approved by the Board of Education on Thursday, September 10th. The plan will change the structure of the East Brunswick school system so that both Churchill and Hammarskjold would house grades six through eight, and the high school would be composed of grades nine through twelve. In order for this plan to be enacted, a variety of alterations must occur.

One of the figures for the project, quoted by Board of Education member Thomas Maugham was approximately eighteen million dollars. The high school will be altered to accommodate an estimated increase of 600 students, and all schools will need to be updated, while adhering to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The music, art, and science classrooms will required expansion and modernization, and the cafeteria, gym and media center will need to be enlarged.

"Those who will most likely be affected by this change are the current upper elementary and Hammarskjold students," said Board of Education member Donald Dicenzo, "as it will take approximately 3 to 5 years to build up to being able to accommodate the increased number of students."

"I see this as a wonderful opportunity for students who will be coming along in the future. For the ninth graders, there will be more things available to them in the high school which were not offered to them at Churchill," said Board of Education member Dr. David Seiden.

"We feel that students that are not in the four-year high school, the ninth graders, are not receiving the full benefit of the academic curriculum," said Board of Education member Nancy Paulson.

When asked his opinion of the situation, junior Gordon Roberts said, "That's the normal procedure. The only drawback to that is that it would omit eighth graders from high school activities." Mr. King assures students that the only activity in which eighth graders currently participate, and which would therefore be affected, is marching band.

Sophomore Jeanne Zanca said, "I liked it the way it was, because switching to all the different schools got you used to adjusting to different environments."

Senior Ken Auyeung says, "I think it's a really cool idea because it gives the ninth graders a chance to enjoy the high school."

Merit semifinalists selected

by Lauren Pachman

Thirteen EBHS seniors have been chosen as National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The students are: Nabila Dahodwala, Swati Dutta Roy, Dan Entin, Amy Beth Erenrich, Brian Gottlieb, Tara Herman, Zoltan Maliga, Manish Nag, Joseph Pollak, Debra Shaffer, Irene Small, Jocelyn So and Jerome You. This honor is awarded each year to students who receive high scores on the PSAT.

Each student who takes the PSAT receives a "selection index" score which is found by doubling the PSAT verbal score and adding it to the PSAT math score. Those who score in the top one-half percent of their state are chosen as Semifinalists. Once selected, semifinalists are eligible to submit an application, which includes a personal essay and general information, for consideration as finalists. Each year, 2000 National Merit Finalists are awarded $2000 scholarships.

This year's Semifinalists prepared for the PSAT in a variety of ways. Semifinalist Irene Small explained that at the time of the PSAT she was "taking a class at Huntington Learning Center."

Joseph said, "I did not prepare for the PSATs. I'm just really lucky, I guess."

"I took the PSATs to get a feel for the SATs. I didn't prepare for them because other than the scholarship, they mean absolutely nothing," stated Tara.

The Semifinalists are considering colleges such as Brandeis, Cornell, Hampshire, Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Rutgers and Yale.

Zoltan said, "I didn't know anything about National Merit until I heard about it from some friends last year. We'll see where this leads."

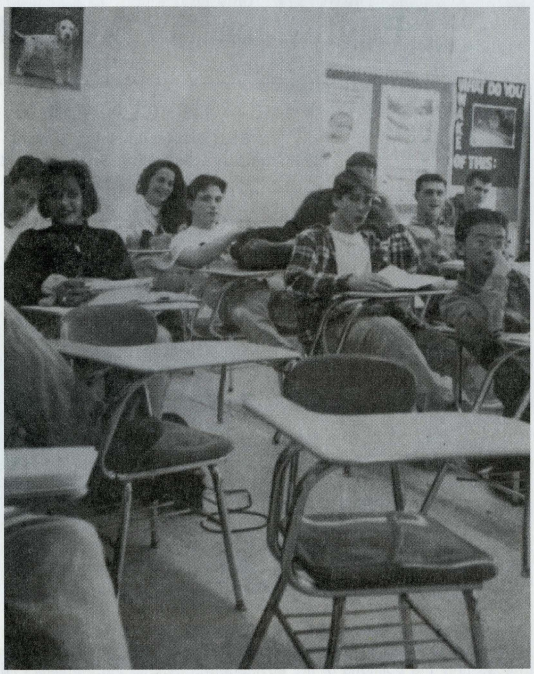
What's INSIDE

Point and Counterpoint:
4 year high school

Gargantuan Gourmet:
Old Man Rafferty's

Feature:
Class of 1992 After Graduation

Athletes of the Issue:
Jamie Forman & Brandon Hochman



Karen Lam

Frequenters of detention will now have to give up their Saturday mornings.

Discipline policy revised:

Saturday detention implemented

by Que-Chi Tran

Due to a new policy, students who used to frequent In-School-Suspension will no longer be permitted to do so. The administration has split the discipline process into two phases.

The first change turned ISS into an instructional session, but for those who enjoy the ISS experience, the second phase will be put into play. This second phase consists of detention from eight until twelve on Saturday mornings.

Mr. King calls this year's ISS "instructional time" because teachers from every subject will be assigned to one period of ISS. While the teacher monitors the group, the students will be required to work on that subject. For example, while a math teacher monitors, all students will complete their math assignments. As Mr. King said, "After such an experience, why would anyone want to go back?"

Nevertheless, in past years some students have returned to serve ISS again and again. This is the reason Saturday detention was created. Psychology teacher Kathleen Ambrosy approves of the change: "It's great! Because it interferes with social time, it may actually affect the minority of chronic offenders." Guidance counselor Judy Rosenthal agrees, "It is valuable because it prevents taking students out of class. Most ISS's are for tardiness, so Saturday detention is a better reminder to be on time. It will help eliminate repeat offenders." Junior Andrew Roberts said, "Saturday ISS will be very effective. ISS is now a joke. The same people go back again and again. Destroying their weekend will make them take ISS seriously."

Not everyone is so optimistic. Sophomore Suzanne Baumwell said, "It's the stupidest idea I've ever heard of. Even regular detention is given so readily that it's absurd. Why should students give up the little free time they have."

Athletic scholarships deemed unfair

Recently, Syracuse University was indicted by the NCAA for offering athletic candidates free meals, clothing, tickets and even outright cash payments as enticements to apply to the school. Now that the punishments have been handed down and the publicity has dimmed, many would like to forget the incident and continue operating college sports as before. However, the actions of the Syracuse coaches have raised much larger questions about the college athletics system as a whole. The current practice where many wold-be athletes are "hired" to play four years for college teams and then graduated with a worthless diploma, or none at all, is in violation of the spirit of higher education.

Colleges were originally founded with the sole intention of educating their students; over time, inter-collegiate athletics were added as a form of recreation. However, what began as a minor diversion for amateur athletes has evolved into a multi-million dollar business, corrupt and unregulatable. Promising high school seniors are subjected to a barrage of professional recruiters armed with ample scholarships and, in the case of schools such as Syracuse, illegal "gifts." These incentives can take the form of free meals, lodging, clothing, game tickets and the temporary loan of a car. Once accepted, those athletes who do not meet minimum academic standards take non-challenging courses or in some cases have their GPA's doctored so they appear as serious students before the NCAA authorities. After four years, they leave their insulated college environment unprepared for any job other than the uncertain and dangerous one of a professional athlete.

The best solution for this problem would be to bar all scholarships based solely on athletics. Current NCAA regulations have proven themselves ineffective in preventing abuse in recruiting and admission practices concerning athletes; these problems will not go away until this last legal method of team manipulation is eliminated. The NCAA could evaluate the applications of newly accepted athletes to compare their qualifications (such as GPA's and SAT scores) with those of other, non-athletic freshmen to determine if the athletes meet the college's own standards. It could also periodically check the academic performance of each team member as he or she progresses through college to ensure that he or she maintains those standards. As a result, those athletes who never before needed to apply themselves in school would be required to do so, or forfeit their sporting activities; those who had always worked hard would no longer be subject to blanket NCAA punishments brought on by the dishonest few, such as with Syracuse. All would receive high quality educations and a secure future.

In the wake of the Syracuse University scandal, the NCAA has the opportunity to reform college athletics and benefit student athletes. Until athletic scholarships are abolished, American colleges will continue to graduate hundreds of coddled and unemployable athletes into the job pool. The time has come for colleges to once again become the educators and not the entertainers of society.

Letter to the Editor: *Unice speaks out*

Dear Students,

As your Student Council President, I am looking forward to an incredible school year. Although school began only two months ago, the Student Council has already been hard at work. Our fund-raiser for Hurricane Andrew victims was extremely successful, thanks to the generosity of the student body. From your spare lunch change, we raised over two hundred dollars which was donated to the American Red Cross. Again, thanks to all who participated.

The Student Council has many exciting events planned for this year, including a series of debates, a carnival, and the annual Senior Servant Auction. Nevertheless, we are always interested in hearing from you. If you have any problems, questions or suggestions, please tell your English class representative or leave a message in the Student Council mailbox located in the main office. On behalf of the Student Council, I hope that with your participation we can have a great year!

Sincerely,
David Unice
Student Council President

Three year high school should remain

by Todd Dubinsky

A three year high school or a four year high school? That is the question that has been debated for many years. The answer is simple: a three year high school is superior to a four year high school.

A four year high school would change the current school system. Although elementary schools would continue to house kindergarten through fifth grade, both Hammarskjold Middle School and Churchill Junior High School would house sixth, seventh and eighth grades. EBHS would then consist of grades nine through twelve.

The school system underwent a drastic change eight years ago. Elementary schools stopped teaching sixth grade, Hammarskjold housed the sixth and seventh grades and Churchill Junior High School consisted of grades eight and nine. The East Brunswick Board of Education rationalized this change by stating that in order to have more powerful programs, all East Brunswick students in grades six through nine would have to be taught together. The board spoke of the horrors of competing sports teams and separated the students. Now, the Board of Education describes a wonderful separation by using the same arguments for the unification.

Currently, students at EBHS have to squeeze through hallways in order to be on time to their classes. Having to move from one class to another is one thing that will never change. If more buildings were constructed to accommodate the ninth grade, students would then be forced to sprint from the first hall to the new twelfth hall.

Realistically, the size of EBHS will have to increase by at least twenty-five percent. The estimated cost of this expansion is over fifteen million dollars. East Brunswick residents have been resistant to large school budgets in the past. They will never support a change with a fifteen million dollar price tag.

The students themselves must also be considered. In Churchill Junior High School, freshmen have a chance to mature before they are thrown into an environment they are not ready for. With practically their own building, ninth graders are given an opportunity to succeed in high school without acquiring its pressures and dilemmas.

Splitting grades six through eight into two junior high schools is not the answer. Imagine the chaos with sports teams alone. It is possible that a team from East Brunswick could compete against another East Brunswick team. When seeing a football game, a student would have to wonder, "Is that my East Brunswick team?"

In addition, freshmen would be overwhelmed by the many activities in EBHS. There is a more than adequate number of extracurricular activities offered in Churchill Junior High School. A student can try out for over ten sports and participate in activities such as Yearbook, Newspaper, Future Homemakers of America, Inc. and Student Council.

A four year high school is completely unnecessary. The students and teachers have just become comfortable with the school system. Does East Brunswick need a change? The answer is undeniably no.

Point and Counterpoint: *Four year high school*

Wanted: Freshmen at EBHS

by Lara Parker

East Brunswick High School should become a four year high school to accommodate the ninth grade. The system currently exists as: kindergarten through fifth grade in elementary schools, sixth and seventh grades in Hammarskjold Middle School, eighth and ninth grades in Churchill, and tenth through twelfth grades in EBHS. This system is detrimental because it puts the ninth graders at a disadvantage.

It is difficult for ninth graders to determine their place academically because they are not sure whether they are in junior high school or high school. Although Churchill is considered a junior high school, freshmen marks are recorded on high school transcripts. More often than not, many ninth graders do not realize their grades will have an effect on their cumulative grade point average for high school. Many believe they do not have to start working hard academically until they are actually in the EBHS building. This is a misconception.

In addition, the ninth graders are not eligible for many extracurricular activities only available at the high school, and the variety of clubs offered in Churchill is limited. These include the school play, the Model United Nations, and the Latin Club to name a few. Furthermore, ninth graders are eligible for varsity sports only if they are exceptional athletes. Moreover, if a ninth grader does participate on a EBHS team, he must take a bus to the high school for practice and games. This is a hassle, and ninth graders never feel like an important part of the team. For instance, many are absent when the teams parade at pep rallies.

Socially, ninth graders are at a disadvantage when separated from the high school. They do not get to take part in any of the high school functions such as Homecoming. Ninth graders should be allowed to participate because technically, as freshmen, they are high school students.

Ninth graders are slighted by the East Brunswick school system which deprives them of academic opportunities, as well as extracurricular activities. If they are considered high school students on their transcripts, then they should be able to experience all that high school has to offer.

This issue of The *Clarion* is dedicated to English teacher Steven Redman.

THE CLARION
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the gargantuan gourmet

OLD MAN RAFFERTY'S

by Judy Tsai

Following a traumatic parking experience on New Brunswick's Ferren Parking Deck, my lunch guest and I were crestfallen to discover how packed Old Man Rafferty's was at noon. Yet, by some miraculous stroke of fate, a table for two was available at that very instant. (Hmm…Was it my charm or my wit?)

The service was (for lack of a better word) "variable." Let's just say that I encountered every waiter/waitress working in the restaurant. One lady seated us, another—the "Real Waitress"—took our order, and each of our four dishes was served by a different waiter. Unfortunately, the "Real Waitress" ignored us. My guest insisted that this was due to the fact that business was really busy.

Nevertheless, don't worry too much about the attentiveness, or lack thereof, of the waiters. On to the food. The proverbial garden salad was jazzed up with Lemon French Dressing, which tasted like a cross between Italian and French (dressing). The salads ranged from $2.95 to 6.25.

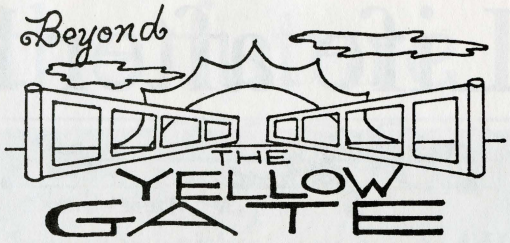
Appetizers were presented rather innovatively. On the side of those little square napkins that go under your beverage, the words DO NOT OPEN were inscribed. (Naturally, everyone opens the napkin—who'd stop you? Surely not the napkin police!) Inside was printed the "Riff Raff" menu for appetizers.

Entrees were generally reminiscent of those at Arthur's Pub and Charlie Brown's. In addition to the run-of-the-mill deli sandwiches ($4.25-6.95), Old Man Rafferty's offered unique selections such as the "King Crab Salad Sandwich" and the "B L T sandwich, heavy on the B." He who has a hearty appetite will find delectable dishes such as the Steak Baguette (read ba GET) to be quite satisfying. And for those who do not possess such large appetites, fear not, because "The Lighter Side" menu caters to the anorexics of the world—quiches, boats (a.k.a. big salads), pitas and platters range in price anywhere from $4.25-6.50.

Finally, to top off a Rafferty's meal, one can turn to the "After" menu, which offers cappuccino, espresso, hot cocoa w/whipped cream and a variety of gourmet cakes.

Rafferty's caters to any hungry palate, and lacks in no particular food genre. The atmosphere is that of a Budweiser commercial, minus the "18 to chill" line. Though parking is a hassle, the food is delicious and the servings are generous. Worthy of 3 1/2 out of 5 riff-raffs.

Written by Ivy Yeh
Illustrated by Ken Sadowsky



by Stephanie Knox

Welcome to Beyond the Yellow Gate, a series of anecdotes detailing the happenings in other high schools around the country. It's the next best thing to actually traveling to the schools yourself. Just trust me, your knowledgeable guide. Down to business…

* * * * *

The first tidbit is geared toward college-bound seniors. Every upperclassman knows the time and aggravation involved in filling out college applications. (You underclassmen will soon find out.) However, a computer program called CollegeLink now eliminates a lot of the tedious work. Based in Maine, the program allows students to apply to up to twelve schools by completing one computerized application. The program then customizes and organizes the application to serve the requirements of individual colleges.

* * * * *

In Odessa, Texas, teen-age defendants are moved through the Teen Court system. This might sound similar to the "mock trial" competition at EBHS, but it's not. The teens involved are really guilty of crimes, and their peers are responsible for their sentencing. The cases, chosen by police, involve such crimes as fighting, shoplifting, traffic violations, or drug and alcohol related offenses. Teen Court juries impose sentences of community service, Teen Court jury duty, or time in a detention home. The system seems successful, since only two percent of the defendants are repeat offenders.

* * * * *

What, they WANT longer classes? At Evans High School in Central Florida, students have alternating classes every other day for two hours, instead of the same classes 50 minutes daily. The breaks between classes are twelve minutes instead of five or six minutes earlier. The purpose is to give students time for longer and more involved assignments.

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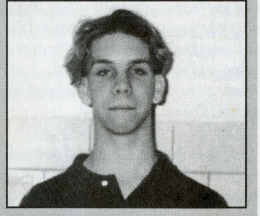
Life after high school:

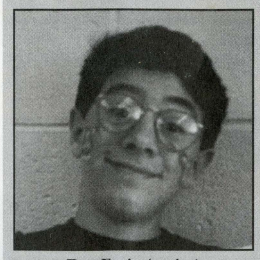
Inquiring Photographer with Rachel Stark

What are you looking forward to after graduation?

Karen Hand (senior)
"Independence...being able to make my own decisions and set my own rules."



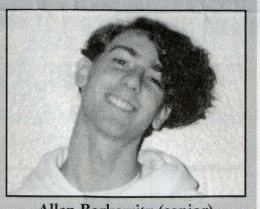
Aaron Silverman (senior)
"Not seeing my parents and leaving East Brunswick."



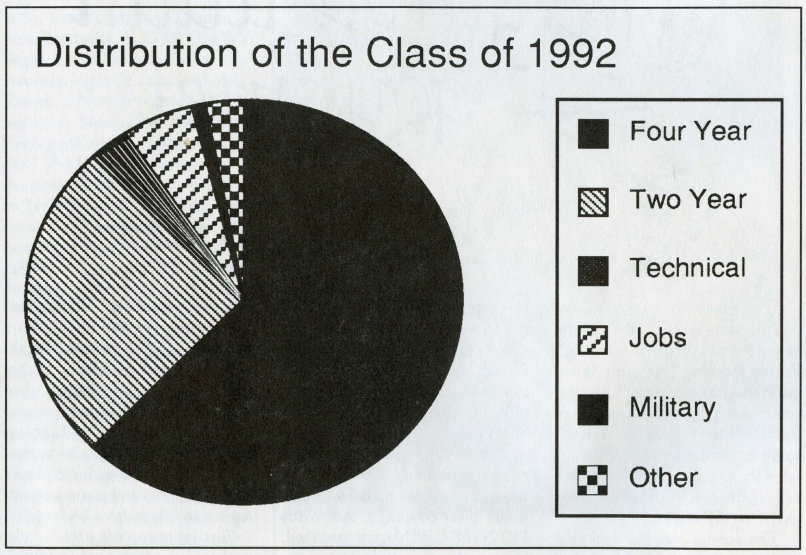
Dan Entin (senior)
"Fun, fun, fun!"

Randi Miller (senior)
"Freedom."

Tara Herman (senior)
"Getting away from all the fake people in EBHS."



Allan Berkowitz (senior)
"The possibilities of intensifying my educational status in order to forward my intellectual cravings for knowledge and party!"



Graduates share experiences

by Melissa Wohlstetter

For many high school students, especially seniors, the idea of college is quite overwhelming. Yet, at the same time it can be considered the ultimate challenge of survival.

EBHS graduate Dana Wigdor, a freshman at the University of Maryland, described college as "a test of independence." She explained, "The work is definitely much harder than high school, but you decide on classes, times and teachers. I also feel students shouldn't complain about the choice they've made. It's where you've chosen to go, not like high school where you have no choice."

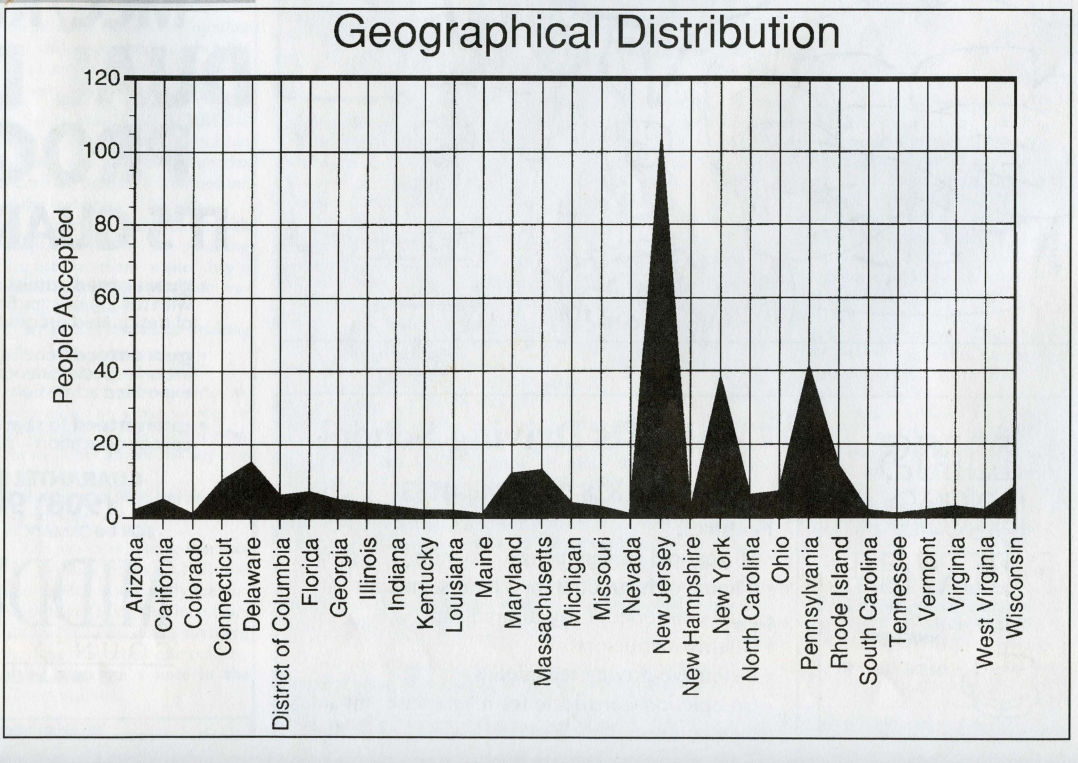
Michael Yablonowitz, a freshman at Ithaca College, described his college experience thus far as "excellent." He said, "There's always something to do. You have a lot of independence. There are no parents which is good, but there's also no one on your back about handing things in on time, so if you don't, you're the one who's in a mess."

Maricar Acab, who is now attending Douglass College, explained, "It's really different than high school. I'm not used to it, it's just so hard." Even though she commutes, she says campus life is great. Although she was undecided as to whether she would stay in a dorm, she is proud of the decision she has made. She said, "I also think college is about independence and really doing things for yourself!"

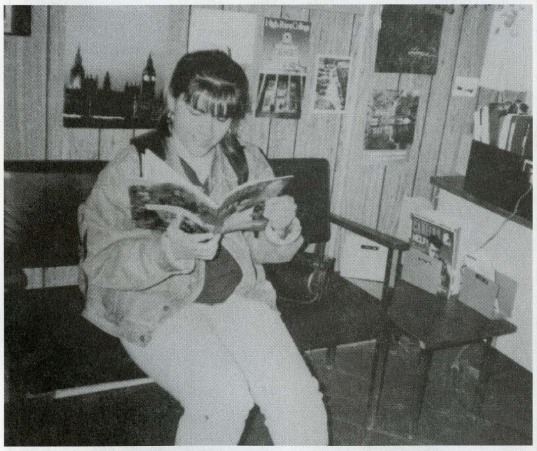
Jennifer Sabino, a freshman at Middlesex County College, said, "It's not hard, if you put the full effort into it. You have to make a schedule for yourself. It's the only way it won 't overwhelm you." She added, "There are so many different people of different races and cultures and everyone gets along so well. Everyone's so friendly."

Jennifer Mitterko, a freshman at Middlesex County College, advises students to learn to "count on yourself." She also remarked that college is a "lot different and a lot harder."

Statistics pertain to the EBHS graduating class of 1992. Information was provided by College Counselor Curtis Lippincott.

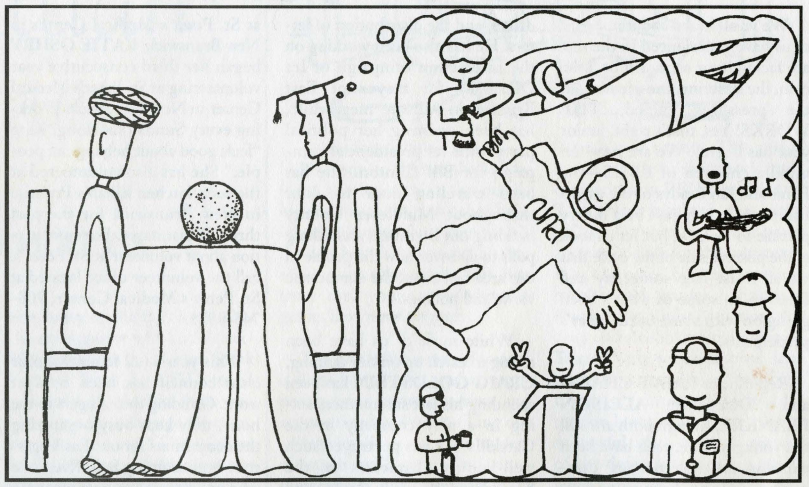


Students look to the future

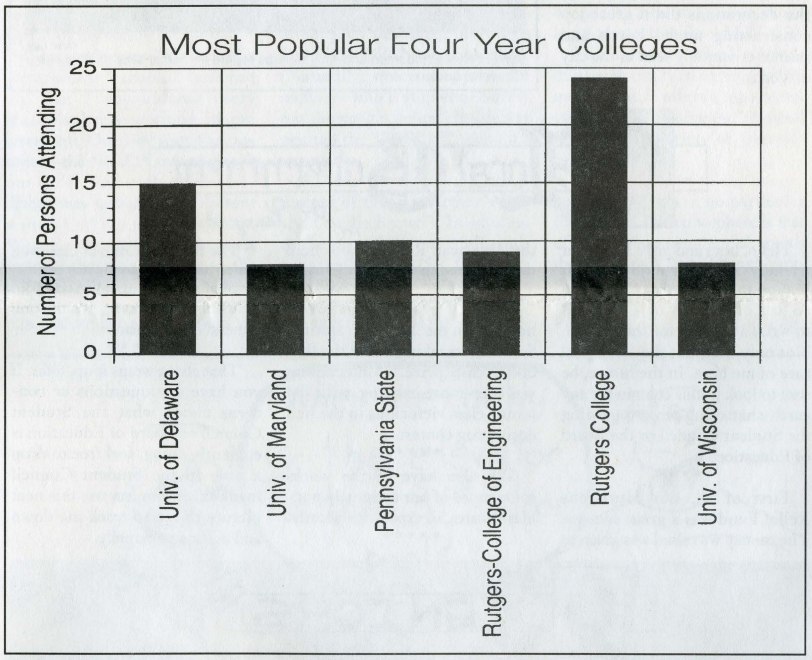


Irene Small

Senior Lori Derr browses through brochures in the college center.



Beth Cackowski



College search continues

by Rachna Shah

Throughout the first half of their senior year, students must decide where they want to spend the next four years of their education. Confronted with numerous colleges to choose from, as well as lengthy applications to complete, seniors may find it difficult to handle all the decisions they have to make.

Guidance counselor Robert Koehler said, "Students should spend the most time limiting the number of schools they apply to."

Curtis Lippincott, College Counselor, said, "Students should apply to at least six schools... They should choose schools that are appropriate and not only the big names."

The schools that should be considered by a student, according to Mr. Koehler, "should match the student's academic and recreational interests. Students should feel comfortable attending any of their six choices."

Both counselors agreed that the hardest and most important part of the application itself is the essay. As Mr. Lippincott advised, "From the essay, the college should get to know who you are." Guidance counselor James Burke stated, "Admissions counselors love to see students show a passion for something outside themselves in their essays."

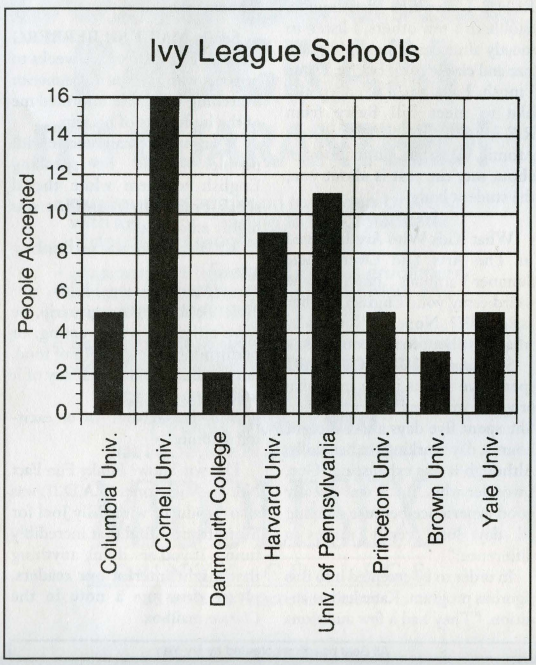
In addition to the essay, Mr. Koehler stressed that "throughout the application, neatness and honesty are important."

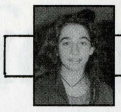
Another point of agreement between the two was on the necessity of college visitations. Mr. Lippincott added, "You shouldn't apply early decision to some place you've never been to."

"Visiting a college," said Dr. Burke, "is important to see if you really like the atmosphere on campus. You should try to get feedback from students to get an honest view."

Irene Small

Senior David Elkins searches for the perfect college.





Juniors '94

with Melissa H. Oppen

We've all heard about it. Some of us have experienced it, the rest are facing it, or soon will be…the pain, the suffering, the friends lost, the pressures gained,…THE WORKS! Yes, that's right, junior year has begun. We are now the middle children of EBHS—the Peter and Jan Bradys of the establishment. It may just be a blurry picture to us now, but let us look at the positive side of the cycle that we all must face some day and focus in on some of what's been going on with some of this year's participants.

* * * * *

Republican **RAJAT CHAND** and Democrat **ALLISON FRANKEL**, though both are still too young to vote, each have been working on their parties' campaigns. Rajat has been volunteering weekends at the Bush headquarters at the Metroplex in East Brunswick. He helps out with phone banks, voter registration drives, and the distribution of letters. He has also been working on the re-election campaign of Ira Oskowsky for mayor of East Brunswick. Allison, meanwhile, has been assisting her political party with its presidential campaign for Bill Clinton. She has been traveling door to door throughout Middlesex County handing out literature and taking polls to discover how the people in our area feel about the democratic views and policies.

* * * * *

While most of us have been trying to catch up on our tanning, **CRAIG GOLDSTEIN** has been spending his last six summers acting in a play company in the Catskills. He has portrayed such well-known characters as the Scarecrow, Raggedy Andy, and Tom Sawyer.

* * * * *

Just as **ED KIM** finished his first summer of community work at St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick, **KATIE OSHRY** began her third consecutive year volunteering at St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick. Working every Sunday morning, Kate "feels good about helping the people." She has also volunteered at the soup kitchen Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick for the past three Christmases. For information about volunteer at St. Peter's, call the volunteer office located at St. Peter's Medical Center, 908-745-8573.

* * * * *

This year's (all female) junior class council has been hard at work. Grinding their fingers to the bone, they kept busy organizing the decorations for our Las Vegas-style homecoming hall. Everyone who volunteered to participate in the decorations did a great job constructing model hotels and casinos commonly seen in the city of Vegas.

Juniors victorious at homecoming!

Karen Lam

Juniors Nyree Anderson and Amy Mutilitis rejoice in marital bliss at the junior's Chapel of Love.

SOPHOMORE BEAT MISSING

(See cartoon on page 3)

Arts & Entertainment

with Suzanne Klein

Ladies and gentlemen! Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Suzanne Michele Klein and I am your new Arts and Entertainment Beat Editor. In case you're wondering about my qualifications, I love Harry Connick, Jr., I think Sting is god, and I am a proud member of the Marching Band, Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band, all right here at EBHS. I play five instruments, dabble in a few others, I listen to mostly alternative music, but also jazz and classic rock, I write, I sing, I mosh, I act, and I would really like to meet Bill Berry from R.E.M. and Jonn from Ned's Atomic Dustbin. But enough about me, the rest is about you, the student body.

* * * * *

What Kids Who Are Involved In The Arts Did Over Their Summer Vacations…hmm…Some weird essay your English teacher assigned?!? Nope—it's actually what I'm about to tell you!

Sophomore **KATIE CUFFARI** spent five weeks in an intensive program with the Princeton Ballet. She spent five days a week, eight hours a day working on her skills. Although it was exhausting (Gee, I wonder why…), "It was a really good experience because dancing all day long really makes a difference!"

In order to be accepted into this rigorous program, Katie had to audition. "They had a few auditions up and down the East coast, and they chose thirty kids all together." The program was actually a dorming one, (So those kids from Maine didn't have to keep traveling!), but Katie chose to commute.

This rewarding summer program ended with a recital full of talent. Katie danced one number and choreographed another for nine dancers! That's quite a "feet" for someone our age!

* * * * *

Senior **MATT SILBERBERG** went to Europe for two weeks to perform with the Spirit of America Marching Band. He informed me of the highlights of his trip:

1. Trying to communicate with people. "You'd be speaking English to them while they'd speak French to you. That was highly enjoyable."

2. "Well, there was no drinking age…"

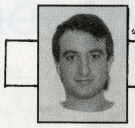
(Matt! You wouldn't!)

3. "Basically, the entire trip, we were either on a bus, eating, or performing. We ate a lot of food, but we didn't know what any of it was."

Sounds as if Matt had an exciting summer!

* * * * *

Did you know? Funky Fun Fact No. 1—Mick Jones (B.A.D.II) was a co-producer with Billy Joel for Stormfront. I find that incredibly funny. If you are doing anything that might interest our readers, please drop me a note in the *Clarion* mailbox.



Local Government

with Kenny Stall

Hello, boys and girls. I am your friendly neighborhood Student Liaison to the Board of Education. As part of my nifty new job, I get to write a column for the *Clarion*. Not only that, but there is a picture of me here. In the future, be sure to look to this column for any earth-shattering news regarding the Student Council or the Board of Education.

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First of all, our Hurricane Relief Fund was a great success. The money we raised was given to the American Red Cross to help those in need in Southern Florida.

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Our first pep rally was sensational, with the incredibly spirited Senior class taking home the fifty dollar cash prize. Homecoming was even more exciting, with the junior class victorious in the hall decorating contest.

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We also have in the works some more of our extremely popular debates, so expect one shortly!

* * * * *

The Student Council Carnival, which last year made for a fun-filled afternoon (despite the cold weather) is also being planned for the end of this year.

* * * * *

That about wraps it up, folks. If you have any questions or concerns about what the Student Council or Board of Education is currently doing, feel free to drop a note in the Student Council mailbox, or you can use this neat picture of me to track me down and ask me personally.

Seniors

with Joel K. Lynn

by Joel Lynn

Well, fellow classmates, we're finally here. We've dreamed about it since we learned how to spell it. We've heard the legends about the wonderful experiences and counted the days 'till we got them. Now, at last, the inevitable has finally become reality—WE'RE SENIORS!!!

Since we are just beginning "the best year of our lives" (sorry—over-used cliché), this seems like a good time to take a look at how some of us prepared for this experience. Sure, many of us spent time on beaches in all sorts of tropical places, but how many of us went to Eastern Europe? For one, **FAITH PASSY** did. As one of three student ambassadors from EBHS, Faith visited Russia, Austria, Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia to "clear misconceptions Americans have about other cultures and that those cultures have about Americans."

* * * * *

How about Chicago, Illinois? Three seniors, **JOCELYN SO, QUE-CHI TRAN** and **JEROME YOU** attended a Future Homemakers of America, Inc. National Leadership Meeting there. Que-Chi and Jerome took the silver medal in the All-Star Project Display competition, while Jocelyn was elected national vice-president of the organization.

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Meanwhile, **SWATI DUTTA ROY** was named the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medalist for Outstanding Achievement in Math and Science and has been offered 5,000 dollars per year to attend the school.

* * * * *

Most seniors would probably agree that they are working hard to pursue their careers. **ROBERT ASARO-ANGELO**, however, goes beyond the call of duty. In addition to working as a spotter and statistician for WCTC radio, he is working towards his career goal as a sports broadcaster by working as a sports production assistant for New Jersey Network television. He has met such sports personalities as Eric Lindors of the Philadelphia Flyers and Howard Cross of the New York Giants.

* * * * *

Another senior, **RACHNA SHAH**, is working as an actress for a production company. She has appeared in front of open audiences in New Brunswick and Sayreville High Schools, Middlesex County College and various places throughout New York City.

* * * * *

Several students also pitched in to try to help their favorite candidate win in the recent local and national elections. **MICHAEL PAHDI** was the president of the East Brunswick Young Republicans, which also consisted of **REBECCA BAGATELLE**, and **CHERYL, DIANE** and **ILENE WEISS**. They held meetings at the county headquarters for the Republican party. In addition, Michael attended the Republican National Convention in Houston, Texas this past August.

The Young Democrats, meanwhile, were led by **BRIAN SAUVIGNE**, who was assisted by **ROBERT ASARO-ANGELO** and **JEFFREY STEIN**. They met at the state headquarters for the Democratic party, and they took polls, handed out pamphlets and took polls in East Brunswick.

All Beat headlines created by Ivy Yeh

Lollapalooza '92: music and more

by Jen Brautman

People magazine called it "Weirdstock." Perry Farrell, ex-Jane's Addiction front man and festival organizer, called it "something very striking or exceptional." Millions of alternative music fans across the nation called it "Heaven." It was Lollapalooza '92 featuring (in order of performance) Lush, Pearl Jam, The Jesus and Mary Chain, Soundgarden, Ice Cube, Ministry and The Red Hot Chili Peppers. The tour made one stop in New Jersey at Waterloo Village.

The concert started smoothly with England's Lush performing some of its trademark ethereal songs. The band played several songs from its hit album *Gala* including the radio-friendly "De Luxe," as well as songs from their latest album *Spooky*.

Pearl Jam, one of the many bands to emerge from the Seattle scene, played next. "They really livened up the show," said sophomore Kevin Swinesburg, referring to the band's talent and interaction with the audience. This was evident when lead singer Eddie Vedder climbed up the stage and dove into the pit.

Then came The Jesus and Mary Chain who proved to be a little disappointing. Sophomore Cynthia Tong said, "Music wise they were good, but their inability to captivate the audience took away from their performance."

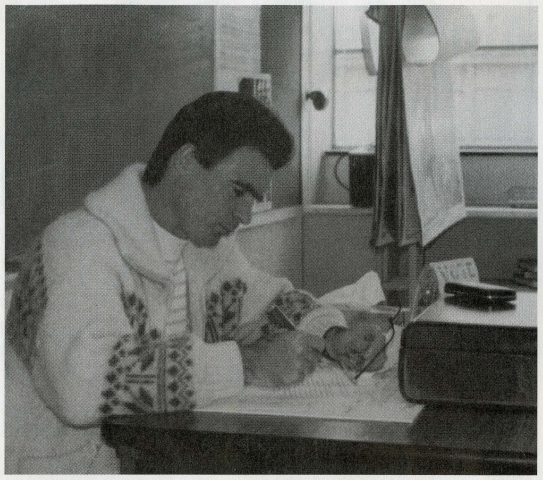
Soundgarden took the stage next playing songs such as "Outshined" and "Rusty Cage" from their hit album *Badmotorfinger*. Their set took on a different tone, however, when they burst into a surprise rendition of Ice-T's "Cop Killer."

Ice Cube, the only rap act on the tour, followed Soundgarden. Though some people enjoyed Cube's energetic performance, a lot of concert-goers chose this time to go for food.

If the audience had somewhat dwindled during Ice Cube's set, everyone was back in place for Ministry. On the stage was an assortment of weird skeletons on wheels and a screen with ever-changing computerized graphics. Ministry's enigmatic front man, the dreadlocked Al Jourgensen, added irony to the set by introducing the rapid paced songs "Thieves" and "Stigmata" as "slowwwww songs." The majority of people were dancing. Sophomore Kevin aptly called Ministry's set "explosive."

Lastly, came the headliners, The Red Hot Chili Peppers, who began with their usual array of party songs. They chose tracks from their hit album *Blood Sugar Sex Magik*, as well as a few older cult favorites. However, their performance took a turn for the worse when they played the Top 40 smash "Under the Bridge." The audience was divided, with half the crowd sulking and complaining that the Chili Peppers had sold out, and half singing along.

More than just a music experience, Lollapalooza '92 also offered the Jim Rose Circus Sideshow, a modernized freak show which Cynthia described as "funny, sick, and gruesome, yet cool." Another big hit was the Rhythm Beast, a huge sound sculpture banged on by Lollapalooza attendees. Still more things to do included: body piercing, fake tattooing, a "smart" drinks booth for those interested in increasing their amino acid intake, informative booths such as Rock the Vote and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and other fun activities to benefit charities.



Peggy Au

New history teacher Mr. Bennett reviews his lesson plans.

New teachers join faculty

by Jonathan Agnew and Jessica Boar

Seven new teachers have joined the faculty at EBHS. These additions to the teaching staff are Scott Bennett, Traci Birken, Janis Coss, Jodi Danis, Margaret Finch-Arietta, Amy Hando and Dianne Hassell.

Mr. Bennett teaches World History/Cultures and Advanced Placement European History. He also serves as faculty advisor to the student council. Last year, he taught at Churchill Junior High School and said that "high school students are more settled and prepared to tackle academics." In addition to teaching in East Brunswick, Mr. Bennett has taught in Denmark, El Salvador and Italy.

"Mr. Bennett is very enthusiastic and brings his international experience to the classroom," said one of his World History/Cultures students.

Mr. Bennett has always enjoyed history and the exchange of ideas that history involves. In addition to teaching, he is currently working towards a doctorate in history.

"Enthusiastic, dedicated and fun" are three words Ms. Birken, a new math teacher, uses to describe herself. Ms. Birken tries to bring these qualities to her Algebra II and Contemporary Math II classes.

Ms. Danis, an English teacher for tenth and eleventh grade, said, "I find East Brunswick very fast-paced and challenging." Mrs. Danis, who hopes to perfect her teaching skills and reach as many students as possible, is the adviser for *Folio*, the EBHS literary magazine. In addition, Ms. Danis enjoys aerobics, singing and movies of all kinds.

"Most students stereotype biologists as not funny, dry and uncool," said Ms. Finch-Arietta, a biology teacher. "I hope to change this by exciting kids about biology so they are filled with wonder and not just memorizing facts. When the kids leave in June, I hope that those who hated biology won't hate it anymore," she added.

Ms. Finch-Arietta said that she has a wider background than most first-year teachers because of her ten and one half years working at Hoffman La-Roche. "I like the East Brunswick school system because teachers can teach however they want, as long as they stay within guidelines and because parents are involved," said Ms. Finch-Arietta. When she's not teaching, she can be found scuba-diving, drawing, boating and preparing gourmet meals.

Ms. Hando has always enjoyed learning and felt that teaching was a perfect profession for her. She's currently teaching American Literature to tenth graders at EBHS. "I write often and believe this helps me in teaching students to write," said Ms. Hando. She tries to live by her philosophy that people should make opportunities for themselves.

Labels limit character

by Rachel Rear

"The alternative crowd is a bunch of freaks."

"Nice pants."

"She's such a..."

In fourth grade, it was decided. *Everyone* knew. He was a loser, she was stuck-up, and so forth. As we grew up, the labels became more and more specific: snob, nerd, ginker, jock, punk—you know the rest. There's no evading the fact that labeling is a distant cousin of prejudice. People are people, right? What's the deal? Sophomore Carrol Bautista said, "We should all be considered equal. This is the kind of thing that makes people have enemies and be unhappy."

So why does this labeling continue? Are people really *so* insecure that they have to put other people down to make themselves feel more important? Junior Mariam Habib said, "Even though we know it's wrong, we all label. It's peer pressure. Let's say your best friend says about the new kid, 'That girl is such a loser. Did you see her shoes?' Any chance that girls had of being your friend can be immediately erased, because you're secure with your group of friends, and have no ties to the new girl, or her shoes."

Others simply state that some people are what they are. Although labels are usually shallow, certain people fit them perfectly.

Okay, but what about the poor new kid who gets pigeonholed in a week? How can anyone know what he/she is like in such a short period of time?

Maybe part of it is literally a material issue. The girl with the long skirts and thick glasses is a nerd, but the other one, with the expensive sweatshirts, is automatically conceited. There are so many factors that can contribute to a label: clothes, morals, parents, money, grades, where you live, anything.

A senior who wished to remain anonymous explained, "I think it's psychological. It goes back to infancy when babies categorized things by their looks and actions. Any four-legged, furry animal that runs around is a dog until otherwise specified. That's how it is with labeling."

Say juniors Matt and Dave, who prefer not to be further identified, "Society wants us to believe we have to conform to what is presupposed to be normal. This leads the individual to feel insecure about his/her own opinions and to label those unlike him/her. And personally, we won't let the man bring us down like that."

So all in all, the general consensus is that labeling is definitely wrong, but also definitely part of human nature. A person who's labeled is unfairly discriminated against because others assume that he/she has the stereotypical characteristics associated with the label. As long as the kids of the world are separating themselves, it cannot be expected that the adults of the world will ever stop being prejudiced.

Peggy Au

Students and teachers find their new handbook useful.

Student handbook organizes students' lives

by Manish Nag

So where have you left your student handbook? Is it sitting on your desk ignored? Have you left it at the bottom of your bookbag to let it suffer all the abuse that you mercilessly heap upon it? Have you scoffed at it as a masterwork of cheesiness and a product of a twelve-year Republican administration? Then repent, for your day of judgment has come! First of all, we can't blame everything on the Republicans; and second of all, you probably worship the little green calendar-planner-reference manual-phone book-ruler-rice cooker-steamer-at-home fitness center-bound wisely by a plastic spiral that doesn't catch on clothing.

Any physics questions? Do you just want to make sure that the administration won't get angry if you detonate your entire gym class? Did you happen to forget what day Japan's Prime Minister Noburu Takeshita met President Bush for the first time? Well, what are you in tears for? Just look it up! In doing so, you'll join many other students of our high school who have seen the light of the handbook and now cannot give that light up. In any given period, you might see kids using the ruler to draw perfectly straight lines on graphs. You might see them pulled out once homework is assigned, for what better place to write assignments down? You can set priorities on a daily basis in the "priorities" section, and even set monthly or early goals, in the monthly planner and Nota Bene sections. But you're only in high school, you say? You don't have enough goals that you could actually write down without being arrested? Well then get some goals, worthy goals, for you are a blue ribbon student now, and the reputation of our entire district rests upon your shoulders.

Athletes of the Issue: *Jamie Forman & Brandon Hochman*

Jason Ross

Seniors Jamie Forman and Brandon Hochman are friends on and off the field.

by Amanda Smith

Since their sophomore year, seniors Jamie Forman and Brandon Hochman have been goalies on the boys varsity soccer team. Coach Dan Hayston explained that both "want one thing—what's best for the team."

Jamie has played soccer since he was five years old. Although his older brother Corey was active in the sport, Jamie attributes his interest in soccer to riding past the Middlesex County fairgrounds and seeing people playing. He joined the recreational league, where he played for two years, and in the third year advanced to the travelling team as a goalie.

"It [goalie] is a great position [where] you can be very cocky and you can stand out above the rest of the team," Jamie said.

Once nominated as the most valuable goalkeeper in the East Brunswick Memorial Day Tournament, Jamie received a scholarship to Joe Machnik's Number One Goal Keeper's Camp.

Jamie explained that soccer doesn't conflict with his social life since, "the majority of my good friends [are those] I play soccer with." Jamie is also a member of the golf team and National Honor Society with a GPA of 3.9.

Jamie hopes to win a soccer scholarship at Brown University, Penn State, Rutgers, or SUNY Binghamton. Though he wants to pursue a career in law or medicine, Jamie also hopes to coach soccer.

Brandon has been playing soccer since the age of three. His brother Brad, an All-State goalkeeper, was Brandon's mentor. Brandon feels that goalie is "a different position. It's exciting."

In the past two years, Brandon has won All-State, All-Conference, All-Division, and All-Academic awards. Infielder on the baseball team.

Managing his athletics, academics, part-time job, and social life is often difficult, but, "it makes me a better person," he explained. Brandon also is a member of the National Honor Society and maintains a 3.8 GPA.

Brandon has applied to Lehigh, Brandeis, and Cornell, where he hopes to play soccer and baseball and earn a pre-medical major. Though Brandon does not plan on playing soccer after college, he definitely wants to coach in college and after graduation.

According to Mr. Hayston, both Jamie and Brandon are of equal athletic ability, and the decision of who gets to play in each game is based on each player's "work ethic, attitude, readiness, and health. There may be some conflict between them, but it's something they manage well and have to live with."

Brandon and Jamie tend to agree. "People believe that there's an animosity between us, but we're good friends," stated Brandon. "It's a lonely position, and we're our own coaches."

Managers lend a helping hand

by Alyssa Kramer

Every coach needs a little help now and then. Thank goodness for EB managers! One might see the managers carrying equipment or just cheering on their teams, but most people don't realize all the behind the scenes work that goes into managing a team.

In order to find responsible managers, some coaches hand out questionnaires or interview interested students. The managers must be dependable and willing to give a great deal of time and patience to their teams. The managers of this year's fall teams work five to six days per week, setting up for practices and games by carrying equipment, first aid kits, water, and a positive attitude. Most importantly, they take the statistics and scores of games and report them to the local papers.

"The managers are very important to the coach and the team. They really don't get the recognition they deserve because nobody realizes just how helpful they really are," said Frank Noppenberger, EBHS Athletic Director.

Many of the managers became interested in their jobs because they really enjoyed the game and wanted to be on the team, yet did not want the pressure or responsibility of actually participating in the sport.

"Being a manager is great because you are a part of the team and have a great time," said sophomore Andrea Mazzaco, who manages girls field hockey.

Managing a team definitely has its benefits. Earning a varsity letter, learning about the game, and making new friends are just to name a few.

"I enjoy managing because I can practice with the team and improve my tennis skills, as well as help out the coach," stated junior Peggy Au, manager of girls tennis.

Managers do provide invaluable service to their teams. In addition, they have the satisfaction of helping out the teams and having a great time with their friends.

COACH'S CORNER

Spotlight on Karen Frezzi

by Barbara Green

A tennis pro for ten years, Karen Frezzi is now the coach of the EBHS girls tennis team. In her third year as coach, Ms. Frezzi said that coaching the girls is "really enjoyable."

"The problem I had with seeing people strictly as a pro for weekly lessons was that I only got to see them train," explained Coach Frezzi. "I never got to see them apply the skills in a match situation. Coaching a team, however, lets me see the girls out there on the court putting their skills to use."

Although she was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, Coach Frezzi spent most of her childhood in Georgia, where she began taking tennis lessons at the age of twelve. She attended Rutgers University, where she participated in the school tennis program for "a short while." Prior to coaching at the high school, Coach Karen Frezzi was manager of an East Brunswick racquet club for eleven years. In addition to coaching the team, she currently holds a job at a tennis club at Little Silver, NJ.

The girls on the team had only praise for their coach. Said senior Sara Johnson, "She [Ms. Frezzi] is very supportive. She helps us out, and she's always there for us."

Junior Jana Scharf echoed Sara's feelings. "Coach Frezzi gives us a lot of support, and she always believes that we can win. She's a friend to all of the teammates," she commented.

According to Coach Frezzi, teamwork is the key to success. She explained, "I'm really into [teamwork]. I love it. The team has really worked hard together, and I continue to see the girls grow as players and teammates everyday."

Cross country goes the distance

by Sherry Cheng

The East Brunswick Boys Cross Country team, composed of both returning members and newcomers, hopes to surpass the accomplishments made by last year's team.

This year's team consists of seniors Greg Hendler and Zoltan Maliga; juniors Barry Idesis, Mike O'Reilly, and Gary Sultan; and sophomores Marc Gensler and John Stapleton.

"This is one of the best teams since 1988," said Coach Jack Brophy. "Many of the members have worked very hard during the summer to be ready for this season."

In order to be in shape for their meets, the cross country team has long and hard practices. Meets usually consist of a race of 3.1 miles through twisting and bumpy paths.

"It's more interesting to run through trails than run around a track, and it is more challenging because you could get lost or disqualified for running off the path," said sophomore Marc Gensler.

The biggest threats to the team are injuries and illness. An individual runner with a twisted ankle or a cold can affect the team's performance. More serious injuries can cause the team more serious damage.

One of the most recent injuries was a fractured femur suffered by Mike O'Reilly. "I will probably be out for the rest of the season," stated Mike.

"Mike's absence could greatly affect the course of this team, said senior Zoltan Maliga.

Despite Mike's injury, team members have kept their morale high. "I think we have a strong enough team to still go far in the State Sectionals," said sophomore John Stapleton.

Coach Brophy stated, "We look forward for the most successful season."

"If we can overcome small injuries and minor problems, we will be a force to be reckoned with in the Greater Middlesex Conference," said Mike.

Jing Qi

Senior Carla Swartz prepares to trap the ball.

Lady Bears succeed despite Kosa's absence

by Scott Lanman

Through teamwork, high spirits, and the defeat of formerly top-ranked Morris Catholic, the East Brunswick High School Girls Soccer Team has proven itself to be the best team in the state, even with its head coach, Lou Kosa, in the hospital due to a minor stroke.

"We all pulled...together to play even harder," reflected senior Karen Bizup on the Morris Catholic game, the first game played without Mr. Kosa. "Without our coach there, we wanted to win it for him to make him proud of us. I think it really pumped us up a lot and created incentive for us to win," she said.

The pivotal September 24 game demonstrated the Lady Bears' overwhelming prowess on the field and the solidness of their game. "We all work together to win," said sophomore Keri Herman.

The girls' teamwork is enhanced by the abilities of individual players. Senior Lisa Rabii, Debra DeNicolo and Karen Bizup lead the team in goal-scoring, while juniors Courtney Blore and Kris Black, and sophomores Jeanne Rabii and Amy Bizup have contributed goals as well. The goalkeeping of senior Laura Buttenbaum and sophomore Betsy Ostrov has complimented the Bears' offense.

With Mr. Kosa temporarily gone, assistant coach Brian Merrigan has taken over. "The girls got to see things in a different perspective now," said Mr. Merrigan after discussing Mr. Kosa's condition with the team.

Mr. Kosa is unquestionably one of the most successful soccer coaches in New Jersey history, winning over 260 games, losing only thirty-one, with thirteen ties. He has coached for fifteen seasons; East Brunswick won NJSIAA Group IV titles and Star-Ledger Top Twenty trophies in 1986, 1987, and 1989.